***Outreach & Leadership Development Program***

The Virtual Community Fellows Program is a free, 12-week leadership development program for emerging or existing community leaders in Edgecombe and Nash counties. The goal of the program is to build the capacity of participants to be advocates for children and families so that they can have a direct influence on DEPC’s shared outcomes through community driven action.

**Training sessions include:**

Week 1: Orientation

Week 2: Working Together to Build Strong Families in a Strong Community

Week 3: Understanding Community Leadership

Week 4: Creating and Communicating Vision

Week 5: Engaging Families for Community Impact

Week 6: Communicating Effectively to Reach Our Vision

Week 7: Working in Authentic Partnerships Making Shared Decisions as a Group

Week 8: Solving Community Problems Step-by-Step

Week 9: Selecting Community Problems From Our Vision

Week 10: Practicing in the West End Community

Week 11: Connecting with DEPC & Determining Solutions to Our Community Problems

Week 12: Virtual Community Fellows Graduation

The training classes will be Virtual via Zoom. All participants must have access to zoom video. Twelve sessions will be led by a trained facilitator each week on Monday nights beginning February 1, 2021 through April 19, 2021. Training takes place in group settings via Zoom and individualized Zoom follow up coaching sessions with the Ready Communities staff. Applications accepted from January 4, 2021 to January 29, 2021. Due to COVID-19, applications can be picked up in the lobby of Down East Partnership for Children, PO Box 1245, 215 Lexington Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27802 or emailed to you. Request and return applications to vgray@depc.org. Register early, limited space!

Participants in the Virtual Community Fellows Program…

* Develop and increase their advocacy skills.
* Network with other community leaders and resources.
* Develop shared vision and community problem solving strategies.
* Learn about the connection between health and early care and education in early child success.
* Increase their own circle of influence and personal development.
* Have an opportunity to make a lasting change in the community.

**For more information, contact:**

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